

hand to homeless veterans, and act as liaisons with veterans' families and the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System. In addition, the Martins raise funds, have donated clothing, computers, a washer and dryer for women veterans, arranged for a bank to provide direct deposit for the veterans at the West LA Domiciliary, and visit veterans on a regular basis.

Anita is active in several military service organizations. She is currently President of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Unit 1898, Junior Vice President of the Department of California's Ladies Auxiliary Military Order of the Purple Heart, and Senior Vice President of the American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 280 in Pasadena. In addition to Anita's contributions to veterans, she has volunteered extensively in Altadena for years with such organizations as the Altadena Sheriff's Station, where she ran their program for abused women, the Altadena Old Fashion Days Parade, Christmas Tree Lane Association, and Franklin Elementary and Eliot Middle Schools. Along with her husband, Ms. Martin formed a Neighborhood Watch Program in their Altadena neighborhood, provided guidance to others in forming their own Neighborhood Watch Programs, and for their leadership the Martins received the Governor's Award for Best Crime Prevention in 1992 from then-Governor Deukmejian.

Anita and Walter's business, Martin's Famous Louisiana Sausages (formerly Martin's BBQ) has donated food for years to organizations such as Sacred Heart Church, various homeless shelters, the American Legion, the Altadena Sheriff's Station, and the USO. Most recently, Anita and Walter organized a program where several economically challenged senior citizens received gift cards and shopped for food at a local grocery store, with the assistance of JROTC students.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring an outstanding woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Anita Martin, for her service to the community and especially to our nation's veterans.

HONORING GEORGE E. NORCROSS, III AND HIS COMMITMENT TO COOPER UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor George E. Norcross, III for his service to Cooper University Hospital and the health care community of South Jersey.

Mr. Norcross, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Cooper Health System, was named the "2011 Healthcare System Trustee of the Year" by the New Jersey Hospital Association.

A member of the Board of Trustees of the Cooper Health System since 1990, and Chairman since 2006, Mr. Norcross has brought significant improvements to the South Jersey health care community. Among his accomplishments are the expansion of the South Jersey and Camden Health Sciences Campus and the establishment of the Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, which plans to open its doors in 2012.

Through his strong leadership and dedication to Cooper University Hospital, Mr. Norcross has helped influence development of the surrounding neighborhoods, including new and revitalized housing, the establishment of three parks and aesthetic improvements to streets and landscaping.

In addition to his work on the Board of Trustees of Cooper University Hospital, Mr. Norcross serves as Chairman of the Annual Cooper Norcross Run the Bridge, a 10k race that supports the Larc School in New Jersey, a school for children with disabilities.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mr. Norcross on his receipt of the "2011 Healthcare System Trustee of the Year" award and thank him for the service he has provided to Cooper University Hospital and the residents of South Jersey.

HONORING DARRYL VANDERVORT

HON. RANDY HULTGREN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Darryl Vandervort of Dixon, Illinois. Darryl has served as President and CEO of Katherine Shaw Betha Hospital in Dixon, Illinois since 1989. During his tenure, Darryl oversaw significant organizational growth, including five major hospital additions, the opening of seven satellite locations, and the formation of the 65-physician KSB Medical Group. KSB Hospital employed 394 people when Darryl was named CEO in 1989; it's now the largest employer in Lee County, with 1,112 employees. Darryl's focus has always been to provide the best possible medical treatment and patient experience. His contributions at KSB Hospital have improved the local quality of life and strengthened the local economy.

Darryl has also been a true community leader. Darryl was recognized for his exemplary commitment to community service when he was named Citizen of the Year in 1996 by the Dixon Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Darryl's contribution to the Sauk Valley area is a permanent reminder of his community spirit, vision, and hard work.

As Darryl Vandervort concludes his 28-year tenure at KSB Hospital, the people of the 14th Congressional district recognize his distinguished career and wish him a happy and healthy retirement.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. BOB MORGAN

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Mr. Bob Morgan, this year's recipient of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons of St. Patrick's Man of the Year Award.

Mr. Morgan was born in Carbondale, PA. He graduated from Wyoming Valley West High School and King's College. Bob is currently employed as a Financial Advisor, Assistant

Vice President with PNC Investments where he specializes in providing advice on asset/liability management, retirement and wealth transfer needs for clients of the Kingston and Edwardsville branch offices of PNC. Bob and his wife, Marcella, have two children.

Bob is currently beginning his 13th term as the Treasurer for the Greater Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons of St. Patrick. Bob has also served as President of the Society, on the Awards Committee, and on the Planning Committee for the Friendly Sons Annual Golf Tournament. Bob is a Past President, Vice President, and member of the Board of Trustees of the Wyoming Valley Serra Club. He is also a member of the St. Conrad's Young Men's Society, Plymouth Council 984 Knights of Columbus, and Bishop Hafey Assembly Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus. Bob currently serves as an officer of the Holy Redeemer Football Parents Club, and he and his wife, Marcella, served as Chairpersons of the March of Dimes Signature Chefs Auction in 2007 and 2008.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Morgan has dedicated himself to serving our community. His avid volunteerism has helped many of his neighbors, and his continued mission to stand up for his fellow citizens should be admired. Mr. Speaker, today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Bob Morgan on receiving this year's Greater Wilkes-Barre Friendly Son's of St. Patrick's Man of the Year Award.

RECOGNIZING MARCIA CARR AS THE 2011 OKALOOSA COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Marcia Carr as the 2011 Okaloosa County Educational Support Professional of the Year. I am honored to recognize her achievements and her dedication to the students and teachers of Northwest Florida.

Mrs. Carr has spent twenty years in the Okaloosa County School District, including seventeen years at Riverside Elementary School in Crestview, Florida, where she is the Media Specialist. While Mrs. Carr is responsible for organizing and managing the Media Center, her contributions at Riverside Elementary go far beyond her duties in the Media Center.

Each morning Mrs. Carr braves the elements to supervise the safety of students who walk and ride their bikes to school. Mrs. Carr's day does not end when school lets out. She helps to coordinate the after school tutoring program, providing snacks and taking attendance. When the tutoring is finished, Mrs. Carr manages the transportation for each student. She knows exactly how each student is supposed to get home, and she rides the bus route twice a week to make sure that every student arrives home safely.

Marcia Carr goes above and beyond the call of duty. In her role as the Media Specialist, she is the consummate professional. Her commitment to serving the students of Riverside Elementary is evidenced by the hours she puts in before and after school.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Marcia Carr as the Okaloosa County Educational Support Professional of the Year. Her passion for the students of Riverside Elementary is laudable and her dedication to her profession is exemplary. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating Mrs. Carr, and we wish her all the best.

STATEMENT ON BILL TO APPROVE
DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS DE-
SIGN TO TEST INNOVATIVE
STRATEGIES IN STATE CHILD
WELFARE PROGRAMS

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, today, I re-introduced legislation that would allow the Department of Health and Human Services to grant State waivers from certain Federal requirements under the foster care and adoption programs, so States can test innovative strategies to serve children better. Representative GEOFF DAVIS (R-KY) is an original cosponsor of the bill. The legislation is identical to the bill I introduced in September 2010, which passed the House last fall by voice vote. Child welfare waivers will allow interested States to test interventions that help children and families, but they are only a first step toward the comprehensive child welfare financing reform that began with the Fostering Connections Act of 2008. Additional resources and improvements are needed to ensure we provide critical services to all children and families at risk.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to achieve this important goal.

IN MEMORY OF CLARISSA MAE
ROGERS WALKER

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I rise today to mourn the passage of my dear friend and fellow Minnesotan, Clarissa Mae Rogers Walker. Driven by a desire to change the world for the better, Ms. Walker spent her life serving many in need in the Twin Cities community.

Clarissa Walker began working as an operating room technician at the University of Minnesota Hospital. A few years later, Clarissa began working for Sabathani Community Center in 1968. It was at Sabathani that she discovered her passion for social work and she moved up the ladder in the organization because of her dedication and drive. She began as a youth supervisor, moving up the ranks to become a counselor, assistant director, acting executive director, and finally agency director of the Center.

Ms. Walker strengthened the Sabathani community by becoming involved in organizations geared towards helping the disadvantaged. For example: Ms. Walker created and led tax preparation programs which led to

thousands of low-income residents receiving millions of dollars in tax refunds. This program, like so many others she influenced in her community, is still operational today. Ms. Walker was an active volunteer and board member on a number of national and local organizations devoted to social services for low income families.

Ms. Walker proved that one person can truly make a difference in a world where small deeds and individual strength can be overlooked and underestimated. Clarissa serves as an inspiration to all of us and has shown us that one person's determination to help those in need can truly change the world and the way we live in it. Her spirit of gracious fortitude will be remembered in Minnesota, and I ask that we draw on her strength and struggles in the work that we do for the American people at large.

IN HONOR OF PRIVATE FIRST
CLASS ANDREW HARPER

HON. DAVID B. MCKINLEY

OF WEST VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Speaker, this past week, all of West Virginia experienced a tremendous loss. 19-year-old Private First Class Andrew Harper died from injuries he sustained while serving our country in Afghanistan. It deeply saddens me to see anyone hurt while serving our country, let alone lose their life such as Private First Class Harper did. Andrew was a dedicated hero who defended our country with the utmost dignity and I am proud to call him a West Virginian.

Andrew, a graduate from University High School, was stationed in Kandahar province when he sustained his fatal injuries during a non-combat incident. This brave young man enrolled in the Army to protect our freedom and our country's fundamental beliefs. The true heroes of our time will be these brave men and women who have stood up for America and defended our freedom.

This young man who was from Maidsville, West Virginia served our country with pride and dignity. He represented our community in that same manner. The admiration our community felt for this young man and his service are immense. Andrew's passing has left so many shocked and distraught. This brave young man's life was so very promising. There is no question that Andrew left a great legacy and his memory should be honored.

Andrew serves as a great example of the American spirit. My thoughts and prayers are with Andrew's mother, Deanna Wells of Middleburg, Florida, his father, Steven Harper of Maidsville, West Virginia, his extended family, friends, and his entire unit, the 3rd Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment as they continue to protect our freedom in Afghanistan.

AMERICAN HEALTH SECURITY ACT

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I believe that there should be a family doctor for every

American family. That shouldn't be hard in the richest country in the world, but it's not a reality for too many Americans. There is nothing worse than having to worry about how you are going to pay for something that you absolutely need like health care.

That is why for the past century, leaders from Teddy Roosevelt, Richard Nixon, Lyndon Johnson, Bill Clinton to President Obama have tried to advance varying forms of comprehensive health care reform. At every opportunity conservatives have warned that ensuring comprehensive care would be the end of freedom and usher in a new era of socialism. Despite this alarmism, Medicare passed in 1965 and thank God for that. Seniors and others such as people suffering from diseases like End Stage Renal Disease have a low cost way of accessing high quality of care.

With the passage of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) last year, the promise of more access and fairer rules are being realized for all Americans. We have more to do, though. There has been a lot of attention made towards the supposed lack of flexibility in the ACA. States argue, correctly in my view, that they are in the best position to evaluate and address the specific needs of their communities. The ACA gives states a great deal of flexibility, but some states believe they can build on it to do even more to expand access, lower costs and raise the quality of health care. For example, in Vermont, there is a grassroots movement that has swept into the State House to move the State of Vermont towards a single payer system.

The people in Vermont are fed up with insurance companies and want more progress. They think it's ridiculous and shameful for insurance companies to post their highest profit margins ever this year while also charging higher premiums to consumers.

The American Health Security Act I am introducing today would give states the ability to increase quality and get control of costs by taking out the profiteering middle-man—insurance companies—and letting doctors focus on what they do best: treat patients. I believe this bill builds on the ACA by offering states an excellent option in moving our country towards a health care system that finally puts the patient first.

TYLER MARTINEZ TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tyler Martinez of Alamosa, Colorado. Mr. Martinez earned the Youth of the Year award at the Boys and Girls Club of the San Luis Valley for the second year in a row.

It is rare to find a youth like Mr. Martinez who is so involved in helping less fortunate kids. The Alamosa High Junior lends his effort and time to the Boys and Girls Club, though. The fact that he was selected for the honor two consecutive years is a testament to his dedication. As a student and player on the Alamosa High basketball team, it is even more impressive that Mr. Martinez finds so much time to volunteer.

Mr. Martinez will once again enter the statewide competition for Colorado Youth of the